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Ayena Gupta

Ofgem 10 South Colonnade Canary Wharf London E14 4PU

**Enc: Charging Statement** 

16<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Dear Ayena,

Notice of in year changes to Service Charges for Regulatory Year ending 31 March 2026

In accordance with Condition 19.9 (a) of the Smart Meter Communication Licence (the "Licence") and Section J4.2 of the Smart Energy Code ("SEC"), Smart DCC Ltd ("DCC") hereby gives Notice to the Authority of changes to DCC Service Charges for the Regulatory Year ending 31 March 2026 (RY 2025/26).

In accordance with Condition 19.5 of the Licence, DCC formally requests the Authority's approval of the form of the Charging Statement.

## Context

This Notice follows engagement with the Authority in August and October 2025 on the proposed changes to Service Charges as part of the Data Services Provider (DSP) Programme and the new DCC Connect solution, which will replace the existing DCC Gateway Connections provided by Gamma.

The DSP sits at the heart of the smart metering infrastructure, providing data services that connect Energy Suppliers to devices at their consumers' premises. The DSP Data System is a central facility that controls the flow of messages to and from smart metering equipment, with Service User organisations (e.g. Energy Suppliers, Network Operators, and Other Users) communicating via these central DSP facilities. The DSP Programme encompasses the work to replace the 'As-Is' DSP with the 'Future' DSP over the coming years.

DCC Connect is the first phase of the DSP Programme and is the name of the new DCC Gateway Connection solution to the DSP, replacing existing connections provided by Gamma. DCC Connect will deliver faster and more secure connections and improved value for money for customers accessing the DSP.

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DCC has set out the updated Service Charges in the draft Charging Statement Issue 2.1, which is enclosed with this Notice. In accordance with Condition 19.13 of the Licence, we propose that this draft Charging Statement comes into effect at least three months after this Notice, on 26 January 2026, to align with the proposed date for the designation of supporting regulatory changes on DCC Connect and to enable DCC to begin confirming orders with customers for this new service.

## Changes

To enact these changes, we have added new Table 5a to the document to set out the new Explicit Charges for DCC Gateway Connections on the DCC Connect service. These charges are as follows:

- Connection and annual charges for DCC Gateway Low Volume (LV) and High Volume (HV) Physical Connections, and annual changes only for HV Cloud connections.
- Site visit charges.
- DCC Gateway bandwidth changes.
- DCC Gateway equipment changes.
- DCC Gateway configuration changes.
- DCC Gateway Site-Specific Risk Assessment.

These have been added to new Table 5a rather than the existing Table 5 due to there being a period in which both the existing Gamma service (and associated Explicit Charges in Table 5) and the DCC Connect service will be running in parallel. Once the cut-over to the DCC Connect service has completed, we will seek to further update the Charging Statement to move the new charges in Table 5a into Table 5, replacing the Explicit Charges for the Gamma service.

## **Next steps**

A copy of the enclosed draft Charging Statement and this letter of Notice will be shared with those with whom DCC has entered into an Agreement for Services, pursuant to Licence Condition 19.9(b), via the upcoming consultation on the regulatory changes required for the DCC Connect solution, and via further engagement to support this consultation. Currently, those with whom DCC has entered into an Agreement for Services means all SEC Parties.

We look forward to receiving your approval of the form of this Charging Statement. If you have any questions in relation to this letter or its enclosure, please contact us at <a href="mailto:finance@smartdcc.co.uk">finance@smartdcc.co.uk</a>. The draft Charging Statement will also be made available on the DCC website (<a href="www.smartdcc.co.uk">www.smartdcc.co.uk</a>).

Regards, Leath Al Obaidi Senior Regulatory Finance Manager

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